

*A note to our readers:*

*We ask our readers and reviewers to please accept our profound apologies for the delay in publication of the following book reviews. These reviews were delayed due to an unfortunate oversight on the part of the publisher.*

— The Publishers

## Atlas of Ambulatory Surgery

Frank G. Moody, MD, ed. 29 contributors. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Company, 1999. 302 pages, hardbound. \$125.

Ambulatory surgery, as defined by the authors of this atlas, is same-day or short-stay (less than 72 hours) surgery, a definition that encompasses a large percentage of operations in current practice. The *Atlas of Ambulatory Surgery* clearly depicts common procedures in general and vascular surgery. It also covers useful gynecologic, urologic, and orthopedic procedures of interest to general surgeons. Surgical residents will also find this atlas to be valuable for preoperative preparation, especially as they assume clinical responsibility. The chapter on central venous access should be mandatory reading for all house staff.

Appropriately priced at \$125, the atlas contains over 300 illustrations, beautifully drawn by medical illustrator Bill Andrews. The line drawings are remarkably clear and capture the essence of the procedures described. Basic and advanced endoscopic and laparoscopic techniques are emphasized and add to the value of the atlas.

Each chapter is concisely written by practicing general surgeons or specialists. The text effectively amplifies the illustrations. Although not intending to be authoritative reviews on the topics, comments about indications, contraindications, and complications are pertinent and prevalent throughout the text.

The atlas has only a few shortcomings, among them the section on axillary lymph node dissection, which has no illustrations showing the important anatomy of the axilla or the technical aspects of the procedure. Also, some of the extremity topics covered are probably of more interest to orthopedic specialists, although they are included due to their ambulatory nature.

Nevertheless, this atlas emphasizes state-of-the art procedures and is a valuable contribution to the surgical literature. The authors should be commended for equating good surgical technique with good results.

ANDREW FENTON, MD  
Northeastern Ohio Universities  
College of Medicine  
Akron General Medical Center  
Akron, Ohio

## Practical Vascular Surgery

James S.T. Yao, MD, PhD, and William H. Pearce, MD, eds. Stamford, CT: Appleton & Lange, 1998. 688 pages. \$155.

The purpose of this vascular handbook, as stated in the Preface, is to present updates and information on the tried and true treatments for a wide variety of vascular problems, along with methodologies to treat patients in the office and the hospital with better efficiency and outcomes.

Forty-one chapters are divided into nine areas of interest:

1. Practice of vascular surgery in a changing environment
2. Practical application of the noninvasive vascular laboratory
3. Preoperative evaluation
4. Cerebrovascular ischemia
5. Surgery of the aorta and its body branches
6. Limb ischemia due to infrainguinal arterial occlusive disease
7. Nonoperative management of vascular problems
8. Trauma and emergency surgery
9. Venous problems

Each section has a variety of essays written by notables in the field, the content of which varies from discussion of new study or trial data to a summary of historical and recent thoughts on the topic. All chapters are easy to read, nicely written, and appropriately referenced. There is a bit of redundancy between chapter 9, Hypercoagulable Disorders, and chapter 35, Hematological Factors in Recurrent Venous Thrombosis, and chapter 29, A New Strategy in the Resuscitation of Trauma Patients, seems a bit out of place among the other chapters. At \$155, the cost may be a bit high, yet I really enjoyed reading the book and it does have a great deal of new information that is practical and useful. I would recommend this book for those with vascular expertise on which to build. It is most suited for the vascular fellow, the vascular attending, and the private practice vascular surgeon.

JULIE A. FREISCHLAG, MD  
Department of Vascular Surgery  
University of California Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California

## Therapy of Digestive Disorders

M. Michael Wolfe. Philadelphia: WB Saunders Company, 1999. 896 pages. \$125.

In the Preface, the authors make very clear his purpose for the work: "(R)ather than emphasizing specific classes of medication, endoscopic intervention, or surgical procedures, *Therapy of Digestive Disorders* was developed to provide practitioners with an authoritative and evidence-

based yet practical approach to the optimal management of individuals with specific digestive disorders." It is important to keep this in mind as one reads this book.

The majority of contributors are gastroenterologists and are noted experts in their fields. The book is an excellent reference that completely discusses algorithms for disease treatment, differential diagnosis, and a thoughtful approach to patients with digestive disorders. The algorithms for treatment, specifically in the chapters on gastroesophageal reflux disease, Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, and primary sclerosing cholangitis are thoughtful and well done. Discussions include the use of modern technology such as laparoscopic interventions including cholecystectomy and Heller myotomy for achalasia, as well as laparoscopic evaluations of patients with carcinoma. The chapters on molecular targets in the therapy of acid-related disease and on *Helicobacter pylori* disorders are excellent. Additionally, the chapters on a variety of hepatic diseases in the section on liver problems are consistently outstanding.

The weaknesses of this book are minor and don't detract significantly from the overall value of the text; most of these criticisms are from the viewpoint of a practicing clinical gastrointestinal surgeon. In future editions, however, I would expect these weaknesses to be addressed. The chapters on pancreatic adenocarcinoma and cholangiocarcinoma are good, but could be expanded. There are two chapters on the work-up of jaundice in the pregnant patient and the neonatal patient, but a thoughtful defined discussion on obstructive jaundice in general would be nice. Additionally, the use of color, now appearing with increasing frequency in other texts, would have greatly enhanced some of the endoscopic pictures. The pictures of radiation proctitis and other pictures in the section on lower GI bleeding are of inferior quality. There is a wide variation of quality in the representation of CT and radionuclide scans throughout the text. Finally, the section on special situations in the treatment of gallstones was well conceived, but could have been expanded and been of more help to the practitioner.

Overall, however, I am impressed with Dr. Wolfe's efforts. The book's price is more than reasonable for the broad array of information offered and the authoritative authorship. This work should be an important addition to the library of any practicing gastroenterologist or gastrointestinal surgeon.

JOHN B. HANKS, MD  
Department of Surgery  
University of Virginia  
UVA Health System  
Charlottesville, Virginia

### **Radioguided Surgery**

Eric D. Whitman and Douglas Reintgen, eds.  
Georgetown, TX: Landes Bioscience Publishers, 1999.  
150 pages. \$45.

The intraoperative use of radioisotopes in the staging of cancer and the detection of occult pathology is one of the most rapidly evolving areas of general surgery. The authors have compiled *Radioguided Surgery* as a handbook to aid clinicians interested in these technologies, with the stated goal being "to create an indispensable resource for the practicing clinician."

The book includes 14 chapters from 18 authors, many of whom are well-known specialists in these procedures. The chapters are concise, readable, and commendable for their inclusion of specific technical details important to the practicing surgeon. The first chapter is devoted to the details of organizing a radioguided surgery program; it provides an excellent overview of the many components needed for successful implementation. Issues of radiation safety and principles of radiation physics are thoroughly discussed in the next chapter, followed by recommendations for training and credentialing. Sentinel node biopsy in melanoma is well covered in two chapters, one discussing the scientific basis and the other the technical details of performing these procedures. There are also two chapters on sentinel node mapping in breast cancer, one focusing on the blue dye technique and the other on blue dye plus radiocolloid. Separate chapters discuss lymphoscintigraphy, pathologic evaluation of nodes in breast cancer, and pathologic evaluation in melanoma. These complete the information needed by the surgeon using these techniques, who must understand the important features of three different specialties: surgery, pathology, and nuclear medicine. The book then proceeds to a good overview of minimally invasive parathyroidectomy, and three chapters on areas of less interest to general surgeons (other skin cancers, vulvar carcinoma, and localization of bone lesions).

The book is well written and its information is easily accessible. Numerous intraoperative photos, lymphoscintigrams, photomicrographs, line drawings, and algorithms are included; the photographs are black and white in the chapters, but they also appear in color in an appendix. Negatives include an index that is not particularly helpful, and no coverage of radioimmunoguided surgery.

In summary, this handbook addresses well all of the elements essential to radioguided surgery, and in particular provides the relevant technical details to carrying out these procedures. It will be of value not only to practicing surgeons and surgeons in training, but also to their colleagues in nuclear medicine, dermatology, and pathology.

JAMES R. HOWE V, MD  
Department of Surgery  
University of Iowa College of Medicine  
Iowa City, Iowa

**Parkland Trauma Handbook, 2nd edition**

Fiemu Nwariaku, MD, and Erwin Thal, MD, eds.  
London: Mosby International Ltd, 1999. 517 Pages.  
\$36.95.

This objective of this revision of a handbook by residents and fellows at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical was to create a "practical, portable, trauma reference source that would be of use to medical students, residents, and practicing physicians." The editors have done this, covering a broad topic with few omissions. The handbook is a great reference for residents and medical students learning the basics of trauma evaluation, introduction to acute trauma algorithms, and postresuscitation patient care.

The 52 chapters are organized into sections addressing general trauma topics, specific organ injuries, orthopedic trauma, special trauma issues, and critical care of the trauma patient. The basic discussion on trauma patient work-up and approach to injuries is information medical students and trauma residents should learn and know. The strengths of the handbook remain its quick reference presentation of the numerous organ and injury classification schemes in trauma, and its review of infrequently encountered topics. The addition of the critical care section to the second edition is an advantage.

The *Parkland Trauma Handbook* would serve well as a quick reference for trauma residents or in the pockets of medical students.

ANDERS R. MERG, MD  
*Department of Surgery*  
*University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics*  
*Iowa City, Iowa*

**Inflammatory Bowel Disease, 5th edition**

Joseph B. Kirsner, MD, PhD, ed. Philadelphia: WB Saunders Company, 1999. 800 pages, hardbound. \$145.

The fifth edition of *Inflammatory Bowel Disease* appears 25 years after the first edition, an era in which major advances have been made in virtually every aspect of the understanding and treatment of inflammatory bowel diseases. This very impressive text includes contributions from internationally recognized experts in the fields of mucosal health and disease, inflammatory bowel pathology, and medical and surgical therapy. More than any other text on this topic, it integrates up-to-date information on scientific advances in intestinal physiology with clinical aspects of inflammatory bowel disease. Most chapters strike a proper balance between medical and surgical therapy, and each topic is given full consideration.

At 800 pages, the text is inclusive but not repetitious. The authors have appropriately integrated illustrative material, including a number of very high quality radiographs and endoscopic pictures, with the text. Insofar as possible, the text is up to date; most references end in the mid-1990s.

The book will appeal most to accomplished gastrointestinal surgeons and gastroenterologists. Medical students and lower-level house staff may find the level of detailed information somewhat daunting. At \$145, the text is competitive with other books devoted to medical and surgical gastroenterology. The fifth edition of *Inflammatory Bowel Disease* is recommended for the personal library of every gastrointestinal surgeon and all gastroenterologists who care for adults.

MICHAEL W. MULHOLLAND, MD, PhD  
*Department of Surgery*  
*University of Michigan Hospital*  
*Ann Arbor, Michigan*

**Colon and Rectal Surgery, 4th edition**

Marvin L. Corman, ed. Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven, 1998. 1423 pages, \$225.

This fourth edition of a work originally published in 1984 presents a comprehensive review of colorectal diseases. The editor has compiled this edition with updated chapters based on current literature and personal experience, along with expanded and new chapters written by contributors with expertise in colorectal diseases.

In general, the book is well organized and includes chapters outlining colorectal anatomy and physiology, diagnostic evaluations, benign and malignant colorectal diseases, ostomy care, and vascular and inflammatory bowel diseases. An excellent new chapter on laparoscopic colorectal surgery describes the technical aspects of each laparoscopic procedure. All chapters are well written, concise, easy to read, and present useful up-to-date treatment algorithms and extensive references. Brief biographies of "surgical giants" provide an understanding of surgical history and the evolution of surgical operations. The illustrations, particularly those of operative techniques, are superb and are among the highlights of the book.

Overall, this edition of *Colon and Rectal Surgery* is nicely illustrated, well written, and comprehensively addresses all aspects of colorectal disease. It is a practical and clinically oriented book for all general surgeons and surgical residents in training, and should be on the shelf of any surgeon treating benign or malignant colorectal disease.

CHARLES A. STALEY, MD  
*Department of Surgery*  
*Emory University*  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

**Concise Pediatric Surgery Atlas**

Lewis Spitz and Arnold G. Coran, eds. London: Chapman & Hall Medical Publishers, 1999. 346 pages. \$65.

The editors of *Rob and Smith Operative Surgery: Pediatric Surgery* have taken their highly regarded and definitive atlas and condensed it for "general surgeons and trainees on Pediatric Surgical Rotation." The *Concise Pediatric Surgery Atlas* is a selection of operative procedures geared toward the nonspecialist. Using the same format and illustrations from their large atlas, they select and illustrate various procedures the general surgeon may encounter when dealing with pediatric patients.

The text is divided into sections dealing with head and neck, thoracic, abdominal, and urologic pediatric surgical procedures. With text and high-quality illustrations, the contributors discuss the principles and justification of the various procedures, the fine points of the techniques, alternative procedures, postoperative care, and the outcome. A short bibliography of key articles is also provided in many chapters. The clarity and thoroughness of this format serves the atlas well and provides the clinician with a good resource for the selected topics.

Because the atlas is targeted to a nonspecialist audience, I asked several practicing general surgeons to assist in this review. The comments were generally positive; all considered this a useful addition to a surgical library, reasonably priced considering the high quality of the publication. There was, however, a consensus that several important procedures were not addressed that a general surgeon might encounter in an urgent or emergent situation where the expertise of a pediatric surgeon was not available. For example, while a complete discussion of the multiple scenarios encountered with surgical necrotizing enterocolitis would be beyond the scope of the book, several general surgeons felt that more information about the pediatric surgical principles one must consider when evaluating and operating on these patients was needed. Many of the reviewing surgeons had encountered these patients in an emergent setting and would have liked access to a concise text/atlas that discussed preoperative considerations, surgical options, and the details of stomas in the surgical neonate. Similarly, there was agreement that a chapter on urgent decompressive colostomies, such as for imperforate anus or Hirschsprung's enterocolitis, would be beneficial, as would a discussion and illustration of the finer points of colostomy formation in pediatric patients, a more thorough discussion of vascular access (including less standard approaches such as the external jugular vein, the saphenofemoral junction,

and the brachial cut-down technique), and a section on the evaluation and management of the various umbilical lesions that many general surgeons encounter.

With these possible additions, the atlas can certainly be recommended to a very broad section of practicing and training nonspecialist surgeons. In its present form, it still provides a useful resource to this audience. It is particularly recommended for its discussion of alternatives and commonly encountered pitfalls. For the general surgeon who will be practicing a moderate amount of pediatric surgery either out of necessity or interest, however, the full atlas is probably a more valuable purchase.

TIMOTHY M. WEINER, MD  
*Department of Surgery*  
*University of North Carolina*  
*School of Medicine*  
*Chapel Hill, North Carolina*

**Fundamentals of Anorectal Surgery, 2nd edition**

David E. Beck and Steven D. Wexner, eds. Philadelphia: WB Saunders Company, 1998. 557 pages, hardbound.

This revision of a text originally published in 1992 is, like its predecessor, a multi-author volume with contributors from many of the major colorectal centers in North America. Several previously combined topics have been separated, and a few entirely new topics have been added. These changes improve the overall quality of the text, and reflect the expansion in information and technological advances in anorectal surgery.

The text is comprised of clinically applicable and relevant material, and the quality of individual chapters is excellent. The information presented in each can stand alone, and yet complements the information presented in others. A few typographical errors are the only faults to be found, especially in the section on incontinence. Overall, however, the text is a very good summary of anorectal disease. Because anorectal problems are so common, and only superficially covered in most general surgery texts, this edition would be a valuable addition to the library of any student or practitioner of general surgery.

AMANDA M. METCALF, MD  
*Department of Surgery*  
*University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics*  
*Iowa City, Iowa*